

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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November 11, 1992

Money well spent?

Allocation of student funds examined

Crisis fee to remain

by Daniel Dobransky
Strobe staff

The \$735 special (crisis) fee charged to students' bills will remain the same next semester, the college treasurer said in an interview.

Michael T. Rivard, Vice President for Finance and Treasurer of FSC, said the state government has increased FSC's budget this 1993 fiscal year—July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993—by approximately \$1 million, thus enabling the college to keep this fee the same this semester and next.

"The one thing we're hoping is that the state is going to realize it's responsibility to provide funding for higher education," said Rivard. "We think that they're beginning to do that."

Rivard pointed out that although FSC does not want to make it more expensive for students to attend the college, the special (crisis) fee must be charged in order to balance the budget.

This fee was first charged to students in 1989 at a cost of \$100 for the spring semester. The fee rose to \$235 per semester in the spring of 1990, then to \$735 per semester in the spring of 1991, 1992, and now for 1993.

"The whole concept is the state has decided that it is not going to fund the full cost of education here (at FSC) and if a student wants to come here to get an education, they're going to have to pick up part of the cost," said Rivard.

Using the 1992 budget as an example, Rivard pointed out that the college had income of about \$14.9 million through state appropriations—maintenance, tuition retention, and others—last year's special fee balance, and continuing education. However, expenses such as salaries, utilities, supplies, to name a few, amounted to approximately \$19.3 million.

In order to balance the 1992 budget, the college needed to come up with \$4.4 million, and students were charged this amount through the special (crisis) fee.

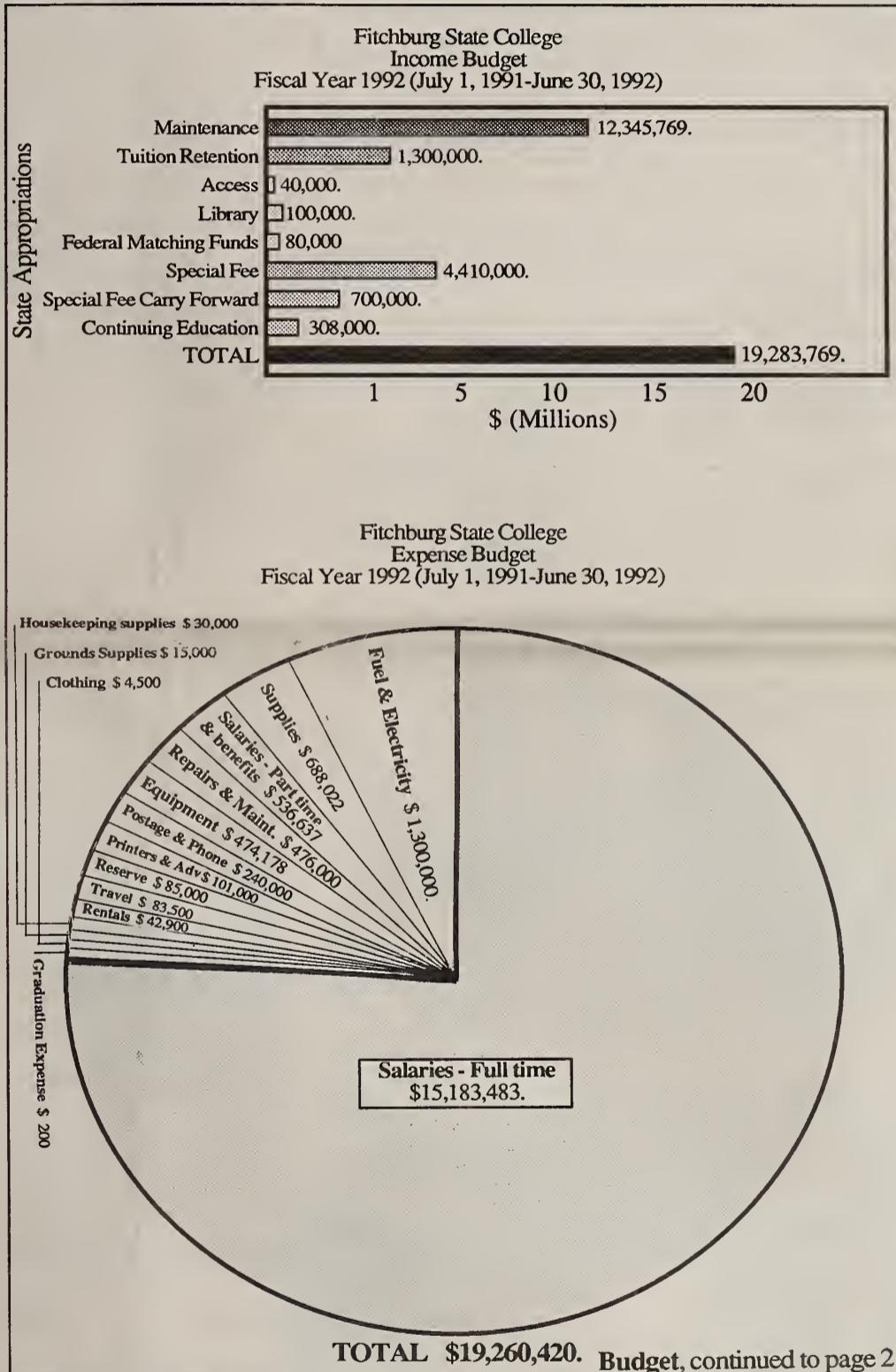
Rivard said that the college's board of trustees has the power to raise the special (crisis) fee. Thus far, according to Rivard, the trustees have decided to raise this fee instead of making additional cutbacks and making FSC a smaller institution with fewer students.

Rivard does not anticipate that the special fee will go up in the fall of 1993 and spring of 1994 semesters because he is optimistic the college will be appropriated enough money from the state government.

Aside from the special fee, when asked about a possible increase in tuition next year, Rivard responded by saying that the college has no control over the price of tuition. He said that the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) controls the rate of tuition at FSC and the state's other public colleges.

This semester, HECC increased tuition by \$27 per student at FSC, and Rivard does not foresee HECC raising it next semester.

Rivard said that other non-crisis fees, such as the students activity charge, athletics charge, and educational services, to name a few, should remain the same next semester. Out of these non-crisis fees, only the health services charge has risen recently, as it went from \$16 to \$25 per student this semester.



IN THIS ISSUE



Jane Fiske, a professor of Music at FSC, will perform with the Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra. Story on page 4



Once again, Club Comm/Med upheld the annual tradition of creating a Haunted House in the tunnels of FSC, story on page 8



The FSC soccer team had an important game against North Adams State on Hallow's Eve. Story on page 12

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Career Services Center: here to help the students

by John Hartman
Staff writer

Helping students succeed with their future careers is what the Career Services Center offers to FSC students.

Located on the third floor of the library, the center provides "Workshops for Success" to help students with activities from resume writing to how to properly dress for a job interview.

According to Douglas Sherman, the center's director, many workshops are geared toward seniors to help them with the job search.

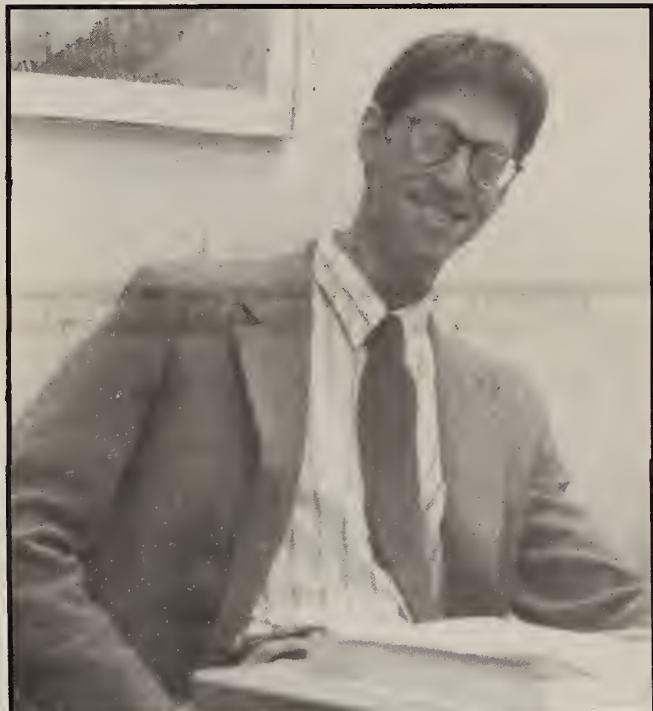
However, Sherman pointed out that there are also workshops for newer students such as "Planning Your Career Direction"—which helps students decide upon a career goal; and "A Major Issue" which helps undeclared students choose a major.

"The important workshops coming out of the center," said Sherman, "are our 'Pizza Panels'."

Sherman said that this program is designed to bring back FSC alumni who have been employed in a particular field to discuss their work experience with students.

Any students interested in having a workshop done on a specific career topic may submit a request to the center. Many workshops have been brought about by requests by students and faculty, according to Sherman.

Any student can attend a workshop or ask questions of career counseling staff.



Douglas Sherman, director of FSC's Career Services

Industrial Technology Dept. hosts Quabbin Reservoir Show

Press release

At no cost, all interested parties are invited to see "The Construction of Winsor Dam", a slide show about the building of one of the two massive dams which impound the waters of Quabbin Reservoir. It will be shown in the Ellis White Lecture hall in the Hammond Building on Tuesday, November 10 from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Les and Terry Campbell of the Quabbin Interpretive Services program will narrate the program which includes many construction photographs from the MDC's archives.

Built between 1935 and 1939, Winsor Dam was one of the largest earthen dams in the world at the time. Its unique design was carefully planned

by engineers to ensure that the dam would never leak. Today, the dam remains solid and secure, a testimony to the foresight and planning of these engineers. The slide show will detail the entire construction project and describe the process in non-technical terms.

Quabbin reservoir is part of a water supply that provides 2.5 million Massachusetts residents with pure drinking water.

The 25,000-acre reservoir and 56,000 acres of surrounding watershed lands are managed by the Metropolitan District Commission to ensure the availability of pure water for future generations.

For more information, contact Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, Industrial Arts Building Room #237.

by Jeff Schnaufer (CPS)

LOS ANGELES - When John boards the bus after a long day of classes, he often falls asleep, not bothering to tell the driver to awaken him at the stop near his home. It's not because he doesn't care about getting home; it's because he doesn't have one.

John's situation is not an isolated case. Across the country, a growing number of college students are finding themselves in the ranks of the homeless, forced to juggle their dreams of success with the reality of survival.

"You have to go slow," said John, an auto mechanics student in his mid-30s at Santa Monica Community College in southern California. John, who holds a part-time job at the college, doesn't want his real name used because he doesn't want people to know he's homeless.

"Sometimes I sleep on the bus, taking the bus all the way into downtown Los Angeles and come back in time for classes in the morning. Sometimes I live in a motel for a week when I get paid. Sometimes I live in the streets. Sometimes I stay with a friend if he has a car."

Although there is no official number of homeless students in the United States, estimates of the total homeless population range from a conservative figure of 500,000 to 3 million, according to advocacy groups.

Even with such a large number of students needing so much, only a few colleges have addressed the problem directly.

One of the largest efforts has taken place in Florida, where the state Legislature passed an amendment earlier this year that exempts homeless students from paying laboratory and instructional fees at state-supported community colleges and universities.

While Hurricane Andrew added a significant number of students to Florida's homeless ranks, college officials said the new law and Florida's sunny climate had already attracted many homeless people who want to be students.

"Our percentage of homeless is higher than the general population. We have about 100 (homeless) here," said George Young,

said George Young,

the inability to pay for hous-

ing is so serious that some college officials are opening the doors to their homes and offices to keep students in school.

Efforts to help the homeless are also taking place in Massachusetts. Last month, Suffolk University in Boston awarded a homeless man with a four-year scholarship. Kevin Davis, 31, began studying finance this fall under the private university's annual Homeless Student Scholarship Program.

"I always wanted to go to college and now I can," David said in a statement. "I have a wonderful opportunity to build a new future."

Students are also pitching in to help other students. At Michigan State University in East Lansing, students have joined with a local philanthropist to open a food bank for students who may live off campus and who are having financial problems, including homeless students. To encourage participation, 20 percent discounts at the bookstore are being offered to donors, while recipients can receive food without having to prove their need.

Despite these efforts to help homeless students stay in school, rising tuition, cost-of-living increases and continued low wages are forcing more students to choose between attending classes and having a place to call home.

For example, John is on his third venture as a homeless student since moving to California from New York. He became homeless each time because he could not afford to pay for housing.

"I had found a two-bedroom apartment with a South African student. He rented me a room for \$280 and we split utilities," recalled John, who holds odd jobs and receives financial aid. "When the student finished the four years at UCLA, he was supposed to leave the country. I didn't have enough money to keep paying the rent."

With only \$400 a month in income from a part-time and financial aid, John said he has just enough to pay for food and bills, such as storage for his belongings, a student bus pass and, ironically, a Visa credit card obtained at a student rate.

The inability to pay for hous-

ing is so serious that some college officials are opening the doors to their homes and offices to keep students in school.

"The economy is stressing them," Young said. "I had a student body president who slept in the student body office for a month because he couldn't pay rent. We've let them take showers in the gym and sleep in the gym and the locker room. I've got people on my staff who will take people home with them."

One student decided he would rather go homeless than sacrifice equality education.

Charles Kirby, 25, decided to live in his van when he enrolled at California State University, Northridge. After working for two years as a waiter, Kirby did not want to see his savings wasted on high rents, which can run as much as \$500 per month, even sharing a small apartment.

Working to pay that kind of rent would interfere too much with his grades, said Kirby, who lives off his savings and does not work. "I consider being a student a full-time job. I want to get the A's to go to graduate school," said Kirby, an English major. "I'm a serious student. I'm not just some hippie in a van."

"Why should I spend money on housing when I don't know what tuition is going to be next year? I want to be prepared," added Kirby, pointing out that SCUN's fees were raised 40 percent this year due to a California budget crisis.

But Kirby's decision to be homeless has had a cost, even if it is not rent. It's nearly impossible to lead a normal life, he says. He must photocopy textbooks to save money, eat only fruits, vegetables and other perishable foods because he has no cooking facilities, keep his van away from campus police and sneak into the gym to shower. He also gets lonely.

"I can't give any women my phone number," Kirby said.

For some homeless people, however, college may be the last chance of a normal life.

"The two places I have lived, I found through school. In school, I found some kind of income," said John, who dreams of opening an auto shop one day. "If it weren't for school, I'd be on the street. I found people who cared."

Budget, continued from page 1

from FSC Today

'Were not alone'

Budget woes common college theme

The Massachusetts state colleges have some of the highest tuition and fee charges among four-year public colleges nationwide.

Only 17.8% of U.S. public colleges levy tuition and fee charges in excess of \$3,000, and they are mostly flagship state universities. But UMass-Amherst is \$5,062, and all but Worcester State College among the other 11 four-year colleges follow in her wake with tuition above \$3,000.

The average U.S. average is \$3,456. Here are the prices at Massachusetts' public colleges:

Tuition and Fees

UMass-Amherst	5,062	College of Art	3,718
-Boston	4,087	Mass. Maritime	3,183
-Dartmouth	3,153	North Adams	3,361
-Lowell	4,513	Salem	3,073
Bridgewater	3,000	Westfield	3,026
Fitchburg	3,206	Worcester	2,536
Framingham	3,017		

(Source: Chronicle of Higher Education, 10/21, pp. A26-28)

FEATURES

THE STROBE

November 11, 1992

PAGE 4

Why wait until spring break? - FSC students to study in Caribbean-



by Daniel Dobrinsky
Strobe staff

In January, when most professors will have completed their work for this semester's classes, Charles Hetzel will still have one class to finish teaching—and he may need sunglasses, suntan lotion, and Reggae music to help him.

From January 9 to the 16, Hetzel, an Education professor, and his Caribbean Culture class will be finishing their fall semester study in the tropical islands of St. Kitts-Nevis.

"The magic" of the class, as Hetzel puts it, is it allows students to actually meet the Caribbean people they are studying.

The class began this semester and the ten students are presently studying, as Hetzel says, the history, culture, and language of the

islands before going on location and being "literally immersed in the local culture" of St. Kitts-Nevis in January.

Hetzell said that while in the Caribbean, they will visit people's homes, schools, and get a chance to see "the real scene of the Caribbean as it is unaffected by tourism."

St. Kitts-Nevis, located east of Puerto Rico and north of Venezuela, are part of the Leeward Islands in the eastern Caribbean, according to The Traveler magazine.

Hetzell said that eight faculty from various departments are also involved with the trip. They include Katherine Flynn and Rosemarie Giovino of the Special Education department, Diane Suskind and Jackie Finn of the Elementary Education department, Nancy Wiegersma of the Economics department, Andrew Anderson of the Continuing Education department, and Ron Colbert, principal of the McKay Campus School.

This trip is part of the Caribbean Culture program which began four years ago at FSC. Through this program Hetzel and approximately 130 other members from the FSC community have made trips to the Virgin Is-

lands and Puerto Rico.

"Students and professors who have gone on these (Caribbean Culture) trips report that they have undergone a major change in their perspective on what the Caribbean is like."

Hetzell also pointed out that the trip may "solidify a proposed student/faculty exchange program" between FSC and St. Kitts-Nevis. He said the government of St. Kitts has already agreed to the program and it can begin when the college approves it.

Besides this program, FSC is also working on international exchange programs with Taiwan, Haiti, and has already approved Master's and Bachelor's degree programs in Managua, Nicaragua, said Fran, Vice President of Academic Affairs.

"The world is shrinking and we want to get a greater diversity of students and faculty on campus," said Nowotony. "If we bring some international students here, it will be good for the mix of our own students."

Also, FSC's present technology can allow faculty members to communicate with foreign professors, which, as Nowotony pointed out, can only have a positive impact on students.

Performing Arts presents Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra



Photo by Paula Ferazzi

Jane Fiske, a professor of Music at FSC, will perform with the Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra.

Press release

Fitchburg State Faculty member Jane Fiske, a noted pianist, will be the featured soloist at the acclaimed Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra. The concert will be performed at FSC on November 17 at 8:00 p.m. in Weston Auditorium.

Tickets for the event will be \$10 per person, or \$20 for a family of four. The show is part of the college's Performing Arts Series.

The evening will feature works of Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Edward Grieg. Fiske will perform her piano concerto by Grieg, a renowned 19th century Norwegian composer.

Pianist Jane Fiske, of FSC's Humanities Department, has performed throughout the New England area. She has appeared as a soloist with the Salem Philharmonic Orchestra and the Marlboro Symphony Orchestra. As winner of the Thayer Symphony Orchestra's Concerto Competition, she was the featured soloist with the orchestra.

Her other performances include recitals at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Danforth Museum in Framingham, the New England Conservatory of Music, the Deerfield Museum and various other colleges and universities in the area. In addition, she performs informal recital/lectures for school children in the surrounding communities.

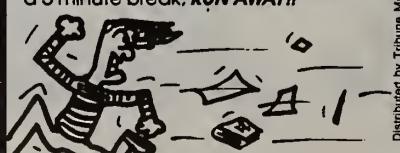
A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, Fiske is a doctoral candidate at Boston's University School of Fine Arts. She has attended the Aspen School of Music, the Taubman School of Piano and has served as Assistant Director of the Young Artists Piano Program at Boston University's Tanglewood Institute for two summers.

The Indian Hill Symphony Orchestra, based in Groton, is conducted and directed by Paul Gay. It is one of the leading regional orchestras in Massachusetts, and has been recognized with numerous local and national grants and awards. The orchestra, which performs a repertoire of music by the great masters of all musical periods, has also commissioned new works and given premier performances.

MR. COLLEGE'S Classroom Boredom Buster

For Long Boring Classes, Try This:

Halfway through the class, when the professor lets you go out in the hall for a 5 minute break, **RUN AWAY!!**



Distributed by Tribune Media Services

FSC student balances a baby and the books

by Rob Haneisen
Staff writer

Most students' ideas of pressure and stress is having a few exams and a paper all due in one week. They may feel that not going out on a Thursday night is a sacrifice. How then would they feel about balancing a baby with books? FSC student Shannon Blanchette, age 20, is dealing with this situation in reality.

While most people may have thought about giving up college and raising their family first, Blanchette has decided to do both.

After attending FSC for one year, Blanchette took a semester off to have her first child and get married to her husband, Tom. She had a baby boy, whom she named TJ, in October of 1991.

After having her baby, Blanchette started working as a waitress at the Old Mill Restaurant. Her parents would often help out by watching TJ, while she and her husband worked. Blanchette, however, did not want to be a waitress all her life.

"I needed school to get a real job. I wanted a career with some sort of value," said Blanchette. So in the spring of '92, she returned to school.

Blanchette felt that the transition was hard, since she had to divide her time between TJ and school. "I would feel real guilty if I came home from school with homework because I wanted to play with TJ. As a result, I ended up spoiling him rotten and my grades slipped."

Over the summer, Blanchette took a few classes that finally got herself back on track. Then just as she was getting into the swing of being a student and mother, Blanchette discovered that she was pregnant with her second child.

"I was using birth control, and I didn't even know I was pregnant for the first four months. I'm still happy about having this child, it will just be an added adjustment," she said.

Blanchette's biggest worry this semester is the fact that her due date is December 16; right in the middle of finals. She said that most of her professors are trying to make arrangements to accommodate her situation by either giving her an incomplete or an early final. According to Blanchette, some professors still have not noticed.

Blanchette credits much of her success to her parents and husband. Her parents were all for her staying in school, and offered to watch their grandchild whenever needed. They also highly support her having both children. Her husband felt that, "...if school is what she wants to do, then I'm not going

to stand in the way." He also plays an active role in watching their child.

The financial aspects of getting by is also a grave concern of this family. Blanchette's husband works fulltime, and she was working part-time as a waitress three or four nights a week, until her doctor ordered her to take it easy. "I'll want to spoil him (T.J.) on Christmas," adds Blanchette, citing another financial concern.

Blanchette says that she appreciates school more now, and plans to graduate in December of '94, majoring in English Secondary Education. Her goal is to go the route of having a career and a family. Both she and her husband want to own their own house someday.

Although she admits to receiving a few stares on campus, Blanchette continues to go about her business. She openly admits she doesn't feel like she's missing out on the party scene, and though she still has contacts with her friends, "it's like two different worlds."

Holmes Dining Commons to Celebrate "Cultural Harvest"

Press Release

Set aside Thursday, November 19, to share in the second Fitchburg State College unique "uncommon" campus Thanksgiving celebration. On that day a special "Cultural Harvest Thanksgiving" lunch will be served in Holmes Dining Commons. Are you interested?

Here's how it will work. When you go to the buffet serving line in Holmes Dining Commons, you will see before you a variety of dishes from

many different countries - countries where some of our students and staff were born - and some foods from this country, too. The foods, however, will simply be identified by a number and a description such as, "vegetarian dish", "hot and spicy", etc. You'll choose those dishes you would like to eat by number (you'll be offered a small piece of paper to jot the numbers down if you wish), and at the end of the serving line, there will be a special menu card identifying the foods by number, the coun-

tries they come from, etc.

Students, faculty, staff, and guests are invited to enjoy this unique, "uncommon", "Cultural Harvest Thanksgiving" at Holmes Dining Commons. The nominal cost for those not on the student meal plan will be \$3.

While our celebration is going on, WXPL will be playing a variety of music from many of these countries.

Does it sound interesting? Then make your plans to attend and enjoy something different.

Dave Antaya: A prof over troubled waters

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

When Dave Antaya tells you that he's up a river without a paddle, it could be more serious than you think.

Physical Education Professor Dave Antaya's office walls have several posters and pictures a water themes. This is because for over 20 years his hobby has been white-water rafting, canoeing, and kayaking.

Antaya, 41, began back in 1974 when he joined Outward Bound, an adventure-based educational group in Minnesota. With this non-profit organization, he has gone on several white-water trips.

He and long-time friend Dave Brown went on several white-water rafting expeditions including some on the Nantahala, Ocoee,

Papopskotch, and Kenebeck Rivers.

"We went on one trip with the Appalachian Mountain Club to Canada...they had to use a sea plane to lower us (our boat) on to the river," Antaya said, recalling one of the many trips he has gone on.

Antaya said he has shown slides of his trips twice as part of the Adventure Travel Series put on by Fitchburg State. He has assisted with some major trips sponsored by the geography club, including one to West Water Canyon, and he has co-led several flat-water canoeing trips on the Nashua river.

Antaya received his Bachelor's in Physical Education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and his Master's in Outdoor Education from the University of Colorado at Greeley. He is currently working on his

Doctorate in Education at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

His family is also a part of his hobby. He said that he and his wife have led several courses together including one canoeing trip along the Hudson River in New York.

"We have a three year-old daughter and she likes to canoe...we take her with us every so often," he said.

In the past three to four years he has only been on three to four white water expeditions. He said that this is due to the decreased amount of snowfall that is needed so that rafts, canoes, and kayaks can run off of the snow-melt.

Is there any rafting or canoeing in Antaya's near future?

"I hope so. I hope to get a couple of trips in this year, definitely."

FSC Police Blotter

November 5

-Request for police, New Hall 6. Fight in progress.
-Found property, 111-113 Myrtle- 1 Winchester 12 Gauge shotgun shell.

November 6

-Vandalism to motor vehicle-#1 North lot.
-Ambulance call- Aubuchon Hall to Burbank Hospital-illness
-Noise complaint- North/Pearl St. Resident complaining about the noise/activities created by the students.
-Suspicious MV. in Parkinson lot, non-students hanging around, left the area.
-Bomb threat- Caller stated bomb to be in two buildings. Buildings checked, unfounded.

November 7

-Found property, Weston sidewalk. Pair of ladies eye glasses.
-MV towed- #3 North lot. Cancelled registration, illegally attached plate.
-Fire alarm, Townhouse #5, was caused by steam from shower.

Don't Litter!
Keep
FSC
CLEAN!

Announcing the 1st Annual STROBE Writing Contest!!

CASH PRIZES!!

Yeah, yeah. We all know holiday season is coming up, the goose is getting fat, all of that. Soon we all will be inundated with holiday

cheer. We here at The Strobe want to buck that trend. We want you to write an off-the-wall holiday story. It can be about target shooting

Donner and Blitzen, or the Hannukah candles burning down your house, whatever. All we ask is that they be funny, typed, and submitted to The Strobe

by December 7, 1992. First prize is \$50, second is \$25, and third \$15. Please keep them under 1,200 words. The winning entries will be published in the last issue of the semester.

Season's Greetings

Personalizing the issues

by Eric Hellweg
Strobe staff

It is interesting to observe some people's reactions and responses to the election results and the political process that preceded it. Some were genuinely and actively involved, reading the newspaper every day, informing themselves on the issues, and preparing to make the right choice on election day. Others seemed completely disinterested, preferring to let others make these important decisions for them. These people I cannot understand.

I feel it is of utmost importance to be involved in the political process, not just because of the obvious reasons of keeping our democracy alive and well, but for more personal reasons. I'll explain.

Ever since I've turned 18, I have voted democrat. I almost voted for Weld in the governor's race, but I just thought it would be more fun to have Silber in there, telling all the old folks to hurry up and die and get off

welfare. Anyway, I have very strong personal convictions for voting this way, which I'll get to in a moment, but other of my friends, Democrats and Republicans alike don't seem to have any criteria upon which they base their vote. Rather, it seems they are merely following in their parents' footsteps. (Pardon the cliché.)

Even though I voted for Clinton and encouraged my friends to do the same, it angered me to see people vote for him without having any substantial reason for doing so. Just as it angered me to see people my age who are struggling to get by, vote for Bush. It just didn't seem to add up.

My own personal reason for voting democrat is that I have a sister who is mentally retarded. The democrats are the only party that acknowledges the retarded and have concrete plans to financially aid them and their families. I realize that some day she will be my responsibility, and I want to make sure I have a government that is working to

help her and to help me. No Republican that I am aware of has ever voted to increase social spending for the retarded. Rather, they simply ignore them because they don't fit into their picture of a valued family.

So there you have one of my reasons for voting like I do. I don't mean to sound like a sourpuss, I'm actually encouraged by the number of people that got out and voted. I'm also aware of the increased effort by people to inform people of the issues (much to the candidates' chagrin). All I ask is that instead of blindly following the way your parents or girlfriend votes, take the time to personalize the issues and find among them something that you feel strongly about. It's hard to believe that there isn't some topic for you to become concerned with. For me it's easy, for others it might be hard.

Hell, if you look real hard and you still can't find one, you can use mine. We can always use the support.

"I thought it couldn't happen to me..."

by Jennifer Browne
Contributing writer

"I have been diagnosed with the HIV virus...."

This is relatively the same introduction I heard at the panel presentation. As I sat down in my seat, in my mind I tried to figure out how the people on the panel contracted the disease. As I sat in the auditorium, I felt no remorse for the three people; in fact, I was furious at them. How could they be so foolish, how could they let such a disease take over their lives. How dare they sit before me, and tell me what to do... when they didn't do it themselves. But for the next two hours, every word that flew from their lips, I grasped.

Bill was the first person to tell his story. He is a hemophiliac and contracted the disease from a blood transfusion back in 1982. In the early 80's AIDS was not as widespread. I started to wonder how such a thing could happen. Was it fair that a man could go to the hospital to have a blood transfusion to possibly save his life, but then contract a deadly disease that's going to end his life? As I sat there I felt for Bill; he has lived the past ten years not knowing whether or not he was saying his last goodnight.

Jesse, the next speaker, was bisexual. Even though he didn't go into detail about how he contracted the disease, he went into depth about something else: his feelings. It was then, during his brief but explicit story that I began to cry. I realized this disease is serious, it doesn't discriminate, it doesn't care. I listened to Jesse and it really didn't matter how he contracted the disease; he had it and he wasn't giving up. He planned to fight this epidemic until the end.

Donna was last to speak. She is a recovering drug addict. Even though she was not quite certain how she contracted the disease, she described how she became aware she had the disease. Donna had a series of tests done, but the physicians were unable to understand exactly what was causing the problems she was having. Finally she was diagnosed with having the HIV virus. Donna went on and spoke about what it was like and her experiences.

After, there was a question and answer period. A woman a few rows in back of me stood up and told a story, a story that made everyone in the audience listen, and think. There she was, a stranger standing amongst strangers, and she poured her heart out to us. She pleaded with us in a way to listen to her story. The woman didn't go into details about how it happened, but instead she was asking for advice about the incidents that followed after she was diagnosed. Her family and her life had deteriorated. One of her sons wanted to commit suicide. Her ex-husband had gotten custody. She was all alone.

Sadly to say, before this presentation I never gave this disease serious thought. I was aware it existed, I knew how people contracted it, and I knew all about prevention. What I didn't know was what it was like living with the disease. When the woman in the audience stood up and told her story I began to cry again, and before she was done I had already walked out. I couldn't bear listening to any more stories. That's when I realized something, the four people that told their stories were strong. Anybody with this disease is strong. I could walk out whenever I got upset, frustrated, or angry and I could leave. They couldn't - they were trapped... for life. All these people said in their second sentence "I thought it couldn't happen to me... it did."

write them, because I know the pain and the suffering that goes on up the War Zoo.

The plight of millions of battered book buyer veterans, who are homeless and living on the streets, is a national disgrace. Last week, the Boston Globe printed a story on a man, who chained himself to a mobile college book van and he was dragged until lunch break before the body was discovered. The man was a veteran.

There are veterans that only sleep three hours a night. Up the War Zoo has traumatized them to the point that they prefer the deep woods to civilization. The no-chickenshit-atmosphere of mother nature is sometimes what is best for recovering battered book buyer veterans.

The healing process for incarcerated veterans is delayed two-fold, simply because they refuse to read outright. The answer can be found in new leadership. Let's clean out the Barnes and Noble. And get a head start on life.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

REMEMBER THAT TIME IT TOOK UNTIL ABOUT 3:00 AM TO FINISH LAYING OUT THE STROBE AND WE ALL THOUGHT THAT THE PAPER WOULD NEVER GET BACK FROM THE PRINTER...
...THAT WAS AWESOME!

MR. CLOWN

Up the War Zoo



by Joseph C. MelAnson
Strobe Staff

On November 10, the United States Marine Corps celebrated its 117th birthday. Congratulations are in order. Marines everywhere, I salute you. There is no finer and crazier a bunch of goofy and lov-

able guys that ever walked through the valley of death.

On November 11, Veterans Day was a welcome delight to all students. It was a holiday. No classes on that day. Most students were recuperating from the abnormal stress that was midterms. It takes courage to be a student in these tough times.

On November 12, in memory of fallen veterans, students on campus were mourning at the tomb of the Unknown Batterd Book Buyer. Veterans, who fought and were nearly mulched to death in that forgotten war, light the eternal flame in their honor.

The War Zoo battle cry, which was heard throughout the college, was directed at the book store. The mark of Cain is still draining the blood line of our veterans.

Battered book buyer veterans

are a forgotten minority and no one cares. Every day two veterans commit suicide. It's another shameful legacy and no one is being responsible for their actions.

Even after the attempted suicide squeeze by a young woman who had stormed the enemy's bunker with a sign, "It's economic, stupid," no one came to the plate and took charge.

Our leaders, who lied to the freshman class of '95, promised the new recruits a paper moon. They told the students that the War Zoo bard is locked into a Kafka-like dream world of endless impossible possibilities, the game plays on.

No matter how hard a battered book buyer tries to rearrange the ambush to come out as a victory, the numbers always stay the same. "Two-thirds lost." Veterans will always die not knowing if they could have changed it. End of story.

There are millions of stories in the naked War Zoo. This has been one of them. It breaks my heart to

Letter to the Editor

The October 28 issue of the Strobe was mediocre as usual. It contained, however, an unusually high number of articles that were totally moronic. I will limit myself to addressing a mere two of the problems I saw in this latest edition.

First, I realize that gender equality suffered a blow in the 80's as the Equal Rights Amendment failed to be ratified and Ronald Reagan, conservative extraordinaire, took office; however, I don't see any reason that we should now carry ourselves back to the 50's by referring to adult females as "girls" rather than as "women." This was done in your paper no fewer than four times, twice by women. If they themselves would like to consider themselves "girls," I have no beef with that. But for the rest of the women in this world, we are exactly that: WOMEN.

The second bit of idiocy I'd like to address is the "article" on the Opinion Page entitled "Relationship Woes." Unfortunately, I haven't the time to refute every "point" made in the piece, so I will save criticism for the most heinous aspects only.

First, any person, he/she "fictitious" or real, who has never been with steady partner for more than one month probably has some serious psychological problems.

Second, the "rules" which were outlined to "assist" people in relationships could have been titled "Handbook for the Self-Centered Partner." Specifically, rules 4 and 6 exemplified this concept. "Never make a decision based on your partner's feelings" was rule 4. Last I'd heard, partnerships require a great deal of negotiation (if the author of this article doesn't know what that word means, kindly have him look it up). Both partners have feelings, and both will get to take turns on whose will have priority. Rule number 6 would have been the author's only accurate statement about relationships, however, he ended with the statement "Be completely honest about what you want." Communication is a two way street. Listening is as important as speaking, if not more so.

The third, and last, bit of ridiculousness that I will address was the author's idea that relationships should be exactly what they were on day one. Many partnerships, as the partners get to know each other and feel more stable together, seem a little less "exciting" than they did at first. "Less exciting" does not equal "boring," and most mature couples profess that the comfort they feel within their relationship outweighs far the desire for the "excitement" of being with a stranger. For those whose goal is fun and excitement, exclusively, I don't recommend "relationships" at all. One night stands with other consenting adults would be far more appropriate and conducive to that end. Of course, as one night stands are socially irresponsible as well as a major health risk, perhaps the excitement oriented individual will have to settle for skydiving, or maybe a little Russian Roulette.

I sincerely suggest to the author of "Relationship Woes" that he take a course in social psychology. Then next time, his will not be an inane, but rather an informed, opinion.

Kathleen Sullivan

by Paul Vancko
Contributing writer

On the morning of November 2nd, I had a speech due for my Intro-Speech class with Professor Welch. I was nervous about it like anybody else, but if I had known the kind of reaction I would receive from Welch, I would've pounded more into my speech, for what I saw angered me to the extreme.

To start, about six people were scheduled to speak that day with me being the last. Professor Welch proceeded to collect our outlines, and upon receiving mine, he paused and gave a peculiar look to my paper. I asked if there was a problem and he quickly replied that it's "just too bad that my speech doesn't meet the guidelines" or something to that (offensive) effect. He flashed me an equally offensive and obnoxious grin and walked away without pursuing what he said any further.

It was upon seeing my topic that he criticized my work. I must point out that of the five

speakers who did speak, I was

the only one he insulted in a prejudgmental sense, only to add more afterwards. My speech was about (racial) ignorance in today's music world and ignorance in general. I dug deep, but not deep enough in my own opinion. I could have spoken about it for the entire day without rest. Nevertheless, upon receiving Welch's "criticism", I placed my speech on the podium and spoke to the class mentioning that my speech didn't meet any "guidelines" and then asked the class to please raise their hands if they wanted to hear my speech.

I then proceeded to speak, talking about how record companies today are using talentless artists like Marky Mark or Vanilla Ice as pawns and so the music is more appealing to the white masses.

I also spoke about how in today's society someone like me, who is a mix of different minorities, gets criticism from a certain category of people because I listen to Social Distortion or Morrissey. Why isn't that acceptable? Just because I look

close to black that maybe I should bob my head to NWA like others do? Those were points I stressed and backed up with additional information off the top of my head.

During this whole time, though, I did drop a comment as payback for Welch's attitude which was that "if he didn't like what I was saying, then he didn't have to listen!" I felt strongly about my topic and Welch's attitude was not only a display of the very ignorance that I was addressing, but he just pissed me off as well.

Soon I was done speaking, and upon sitting down, Welch just started reeling off the problems he had with my speech, mentioning that he didn't like my "payback" comment. Well not only was he not supposed to like it, but he was insulting me even more by making what he should have taken up with me after class, everybody's business in the room.

I think Welch was afraid of my topic. It's just too bad when that quality extends all the way up to the college professor.

Letter from the Editor

The Strobe apologizes if anyone is offended by the use of the term 'girls' in our publication. It was not our intention to offend, and in the future we will try to incorporate a less offensive alternative to women when trying to avoid repetitive usage.

If anyone has any comments as to the quality of the newspaper, as Ms. Sullivan does, and would like to express them to us directly, feel free to stop by one of our weekly meetings. We meet every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Strobe Office, just beyond the Commuter Cafe.

We look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,
Dan McDermott
Editor-in-Chief

Eric Hellweg
Managing Editor



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Tunnel a mixed bag of terrors

by Kristi Widberg
Strobe staff

Once again, Club Comm/Med upheld the annual tradition of creating a Haunted House in the tunnels beneath the quad buildings on October 29, 30, and 31. Using immense creativity and limited man power, the Club constructed a Tunnel of Terror that many viewed as mediocre.

There were, however, notable segments of the tunnel that continued to scare and disgust as in years past. One such section contained a surgeon's table with a tortured patient writhing about and screaming hysterically that those on the tour should leave immediately before the mad doctor came back. The surgeon then leapt out of the darkness and chased tour-goers further into the tunnel.

Stephen's Playroom, another notable section, was made up of black and white checkerboard squares on every inch of the room. A strobe light made the room swim before your eyes. A jester sprung out of a large cardboard box eliciting shrieks of surprise. As you were about to leave the room, a man dressed in black and white jumped out at you. You could have sworn that he was part of the wall; that was how effective the strobe light was on black and white.

Madame Octavia's room proved to be more of a disappointment than a welcome change in the usual tunnel's repertoire. One woman danced to Madonna's "Erotica" wearing revealing black and red lingerie.

Another woman leapt out of the shadows wielding a whip and shouting that this was where all your favorite fantasies would come true. A man, driven insane by unknown erotic tortures, pleaded with potential victims to escape while they could.

Madame Octavia's room was an obvious attempt at originality, but instead drew distaste from those who participated in the tour. Thankfully, according to Club Comm/Med, children taking the tour were rerouted around this room.

Perhaps, the scariest room contained a man strapped in an electric chair. As you were led into the room, the Grim Reaper exited cackling devilishly. Once in the room, tour-goers found themselves inside a cage with the man being electrocuted. At different intervals, enormous amounts of electricity coursed through the man sending him into spastic convulsions. As you left the room, the man was zapped once more and he dove out of his chair sprawling only inches from your toes. To say the least, breathing was the last thing on your mind.

On the whole, the Tunnel of



Terror suffered from disjointed skits that were either exceptional or lacking in some way. The key element that seemed to keep a sense of tension and anticipation in the air was that the tunnel was shrouded for the most part in pitch darkness. Occasionally, a cobweb tickled your face or something foreign crunched under your feet.

The end of the tunnel was a disappointment. An object resembling a boulder composed of paper mache hung suspended from the ceiling. The purpose of this object was not apparent. A man sitting in the corner spoke as you departed, "Oh, just one more thing." From behind his back, he pulled out a horn and honked it in your face.

The Tunnel of Terror proved to be composed of separate, independent skits that either scared, amused, or disgusted those who participated in the tour. Though originality and hard work seemed to go into the production of the tunnel, the result wasn't particularly satisfying. Perhaps next year, Club Comm/Med will have better luck.



Photos by Paula Ferazzi

Neil Young's "Harvest Moon" a masterpiece

by Eric Hellweg
Strobe staff

IT WAS WITHOUT much bombast or ballyhoo that Neil Young's new disc, "Harvest Moon" entered the stores a couple of weeks ago. The music on "Harvest Moon" isn't nearly as sonically bombastic as his last two releases, "Arc/Weld" and "Ragged Glory", but it is no less passionate and no less deserving of praise.

This disc is being heralded as a "sequel" of sorts to Young's seminal 1972 effort, "Harvest". While indeed some of the same ideas and emotions are recapitulated, "Harvest Moon" is anything but a "Harvest II". The new disc does feature the same band as on "Harvest", The Stray Gators, but on that release Young was dealing with his disenchantment with love and relationships, in particular his relationship within himself as to how he stood musically. On his new effort, he is more sure of himself and celebratory of his surroundings, calling accolades

to a waitress in a diner, his hound dog, and to his old friends, among others.

Neil Young has always sung about the innate beauty of our surroundings and the environment, so it is not entirely surprising that the most stirring track off this disc is the ten minute plus opus entitled "Natural Beauty". It tells starkly of the glaring inherent contradictions between man's quest for development and the need to preserve the glory of the planet. The chorus sums it up: "A natural beauty should be/preserved like a monument/to nature. Don't sell yourself short my love/you might find your soul/endangered."

It is fitting that Young sings about the beauty of the environment. As an ardent fan of Neil Young, I can think of no other artist that is able to capture such beauty using his scarce production techniques; just his guitar, a simple backing band, and his piercing voice. It is no wonder that artists as varied as The Red Hot Chili Peppers to

Soundgarden to 10,000 Maniacs to James Taylor (who sings back up on a few tracks) cite him as a major influence.

One of Neil's strongest attributes is his ability to bring uncommon beauty to the most common of topics. This disc showcases some of that talent. On the opening track, "Unknown Legend", Young tells of a Harley Davidson riding waitress with whom he was enamored. Nothing too glamourous in his verse, but coupled with the flowing music line, it paints quite a compelling and attractive picture of an "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues"-ish character.

Some other strong tracks on "Harvest Moon" are "You and Me", "From Hank to Hendrix", and "Such a Woman" (A maturation of the theme first introduced in "A Man Needs a Maid"?). The whole disc itself is a masterpiece, and it is strongly recommended as an addition to any Neil Young fan's collection, and not a bad place to start for anyone who's never bought any Neil before.

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Video Suggestions

Old Standbys

by Eric Hellweg
Strobe staff

Ever walk into a video store, mill about for a half an hour, and finally realize that you have no idea what you want to rent? In order to help video stores with their turnover rate, we decided to offer a couple of standby suggestions; perennial favorites that one can fall back on if the last unsold copy of "Basic Instinct" has been rented.

Barfly- Starring Mickey Rourke and Faye Dunaway. This movie, set in seedy neighborhood watering holes, loosely chronicles the story of poet Charles Bukowski. It centers around Rourke as an alcoholic bum cum poet extraordinaire, and his daily travels and traverses. Along his bar-hopping trek he meets Wanda (Faye Dunaway) an equally as bizarre boozebag, and the two form a match made in heaven. A must see for anyone who's ever attempted to write poetry at 4AM while wasted.

Barton Fink- Starring John Goodman and John Turturro. The winner of the Best Film Award at Cannes a couple years back, this movie chronicles the descent into Dante-land by one of Broadway's most talented writers as he moves to LA. Shacked up in a ramshackle dive hotel, Barton (Turturro) discovers his next door roommate is John Goodman. That's where the fun begins. Along the way there are a few decapitations, and other assorted goodies. This film is acted superbly and shows what true hell Hollywood and it's unique lifestyle is.

Sorority Babes at the Slimeball Bowlerama- Just kidding. Well, there is something to be said for this one, actually.

New Releases

by Tish Pellegrino
Strobe staff

What do you get when you pair up a cocky, injured hockey player with a wealthy, snobby figure skater? A lot of sparks and perhaps a world class figure skating couple, if you're lucky!

"The Cutting Edge", directed by Paul Michael, features D.B. Sweeney as a star athlete whose promising career and bright future come to an end when he is partially blinded during an Olympic game. Two years and twenty-three NHL rejections later, Sweeney is ready to pack it in when he is approached by a figure skating coach searching for a partner for his "difficult" student, Moira Kelly.

Kelly is haunted by her own ghost of Olympic past. Despite being each other's last chance for an Olympic medal, Sweeney and Kelly initially clash. As their chances for victory increase, however, so does their awareness of each other. They soon find themselves fighting against their mutual attraction as they struggle their way to the top of the skating world.

The on-screen chemistry between Sweeney and Kelly is convincing, and their performances are enough to sustain a somewhat predictable storyline. The skating clips were particularly enjoyable although they could have been longer.

Overall, "The Cutting Edge" is an entertaining film and well worth the rent whether you are a skating enthusiast or just a film buff.

'Night and the City' a perfect blend

by Steve Montal
Staff writer

Director Irwin Winkler's latest film "Night and the City" is a poignant blend of both comedy and drama. Robert DeNiro plays Harry Fabian, a sleazy ambulance-chasing lawyer who becomes a boxing promoter, and falls in love with his friend's wife, played by Jessica Lange.

Both DeNiro and Lange perform their parts magnificently and prove that they are two of the best thespians working in Hollywood today, especially when one remembers the entirely different chemistry they had in the 1991 film "Cape Fear".

Comedian Alan King turns in an impressive dramatic performance as "Boom-Boom", a Godfather-type who is determined to get Fabian out of his way, permanently.

The recurring theme song for "Night & the City" is The Platters classic "The Great Pretender". The great thing about this movie is that it never pretends to be something it isn't. Winkler knows that he isn't as talented a director as his frequent collaborator Martin Scorsese, so he instead hands over control of the film to the actors and the scriptwriters with exceptional results.

by Tara Kerrigan
Staff writer

Steven Frears directs "Hero", a dramatic comedy featuring such talents as Dustin Hoffman, Geena Davis, and Andy Garcia.

This film depicts the hard and somewhat unfair life of Berney LaPlant, played by Hoffman. LaPlant is definitely down on his luck and things seem to be only getting worse as he is in trouble with the law and his ex-wife.

When a plane suddenly crashes into a bridge, Berney LaPlant is the last person expected to assist in saving the lives of 52 passengers. LaPlant just happened to be there at

the right or, in his case, the wrong time. When he tries to give a reason for his role in the situation, he is not given the chance.

In fact, the only person who finds out the real story is a homeless person named John Bubber, portrayed by Andy Garcia, who gives LaPlant a lift the next morning.

As famous reporter Gail Gailey, played by Geena Davis, searches to find the "angel of flight 104", the incentive for coming forward becomes more appealing. A reward of one million dollars is offered.

LaPlant ends up watching from prison as Bubber, claiming he is the hero, becomes an instant celebrity. The media buys it, and the public loves it.

The plot of "Hero" reflects a realistic view of the media; their priorities are ratings and competition, a vicious and insensitive cycle. Unfortunately, the general public seems to believe whatever the media presents them.

The story is entertaining enough and well supported by the cast. Dustin Hoffman is excellent, but his character at times bears close resemblance to Hoffman's portrayal of "Rain Man".

So who is the real "Hero"? Without spoiling the ending, Garcia said it best: "We are all heroes if you catch us at the right moment."

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Announcements

Relationship Issues program meets Tuesdays from 3:30p.m. to 5:00p.m. in Counseling Services, 3rd floor Hammond Building. All students welcome.

Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) group meetings are Thursdays 3:30p.m. to 5:00p.m. in Counseling Services, 3rd floor Hammond Building. All students welcome.

The Women's Support Group meets Wednesdays through December 9, from 3:30p.m. to 5:00p.m. Call Libby at x3152 to sign up.

Fitchburg State College is recycling old telephone books. They can be returned to the front desk of Shipping and Receiving in the Anthony Building. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

The Alumni Association has tickets available for "Phantom of the Opera" in Boston on November 14. A cost of \$73 includes excellent seats, transportation, and all taxes for the 2:00p.m. matinee. Contact the Alumni Office at x3817.

Are you a Jewish student looking to meet other Jewish students to discuss classes, politics, or the next "Simpsons" episode? If so, the Jewish Student Union is for you. Join us Tuesday evenings at 7:00p.m. in B-26 and B-27 next to the FSC pub. See you there!

Newman Center events:

Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Wednesday at 7:30p.m. in the NC Activities Lounge. "Project Rachel" for post-abortion concerns; meetings can be arranged by calling 345-2688.

Mass Schedule:

Sunday -11:00a.m. (no mass on long weekends)

Monday-9:00p.m. (confessions at 8:30p.m. or by appointment)

Tuesday and Wednesday-4:30p.m.

The GLBA is sponsoring a Coffee Social on November 12 at 8:00p.m. in the Newman Center. All friends and supporters are welcome.

The Sociology Club will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, November 18 at 3:30p.m. in the first floor lobby of Miller Hall. This is an informal meeting to begin planning for next semester. All are welcome to attend.

Do you love someone? Hate someone? Want to embarrass someone? The beta class of Phi Sigma Sigma is taking requests for singing telegrams. See tables in G-lobby on November 11-13.

The following are workshops being sponsored by the Career Services Center. For more info, call 345-2151 ext. 3151

Preparing for the MAT- Thursday, November 12, 4:30p.m. to 6:00p.m.

Resume Writing- Tuesday, November 17, 3:30p.m. to 5:00p.m.

Planning Career Directions- Wednesday, November 18, 3:30p.m. to 5:00p.m.

Upcoming Pub Events:

Wednesday, November 11- "Seinfeld" Night

Thursday, November 12- Senior Night Class of 1993

Sunday, November 15- Coffeehouse w/ Charlie Dee Blues Band

The Freeloader Service is a shuttle bus that operates every Thursday night, shuttling FSC students to Searstown Mall, Loew's Theatre, the YMCA, or Orchard Hills Country Club. See Campus Center for times.

Classifieds

Classifieds will be accepted in the Strobe Office (off the commuter cafe) every Wednesday from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. Classifieds are \$.35 each less than 30 words. All classifieds are subject to editing.

Business

Looking for a top fraternity, sorority, or student organization that would like to make \$500-\$1500 for a one week marketing project right on campus. Must be organized and hard working. Call 1-800-592-2121 ext. 308

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IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Students interested in taking a Spanish course at Fitchburg State College will now be required to take a placement exam if they wish to take a Spanish course at the college level. The exam is required of students who have had more than one year of Spanish in high school, and those students who speak Spanish at home.

Students who fail to meet this requirement will be dropped from Beg. Spanish I or II.

The exam will be offered during the registration period in McKay, room C173.

Thursday, November 12 at 1:30p.m.

Wednesday, November 18 at 3:30p.m.

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All submissions are welcome. Deadline for submissions is every Monday. Deadline for announcements and advertising is every Wednesday.

All submissions are subject to editing.

For more information, call the Strobe Office at 345-6711.



In the final game of the season, the Fitchburg State field hockey team defeated Salem State by a slim 2-1 score.

The Lady Falcons finish the season with a record of 7-8-1.

Photo by Patricia Depew

Former Celtic addresses success

by Jeff Mann
Staff reporter

As part of Mount Wachusett Distinguished Visitor Series, former Boston Celtic great Tommy Heinsohn spoke to a large crowd about some of his life experiences, relating them to convey his inherent message of being successful in life.

An All-American out of Holy Cross, Heinsohn played nine seasons for the Boston Celtics, was the team's leading scorer three times, and eventually came away with eight NBA championship titles. Following his playing days as head coach of the team, Heinsohn won five Atlantic Division titles, two championships and in 1973 was named NBA Coach of the Year.

One would then logically assume that such accomplishments and accolades that he amassed during his basketball career would be

the most important thing in his life. Heinsohn disagreed, stressing that athletic accomplishments are meaningful only because he is able to judge them against the greater backdrop of his life. He said that while he was in school, he eventually achieved self-actualization that was not in any way dependent on basketball ability, or altered by the plethora of everyday opinions.

"The key thing in life is making the right choices for yourself," Heinsohn said. "And you have to rebound from the poor choices, because nobody makes the right choices all of the time."

He said that to be truly successful in life, people must develop a sense of who they are as much as possible. Since graduating from college, Heinsohn has been extensively involved in the insurance industry, television broadcasting, and even artwork and paintings.

According to Heinsohn, no matter what you do in life, 40 percent of the people will like you, 40 percent of the people will hate you, and the final 20 percent will actually pay attention to what you are really doing.

To develop as a great athlete and nothing else, Heinsohn said, has proven to be a life of transient glory and lingering pain for several former athletes. He also indicated that, too often, people listen to others assess their worth without ever developing a confident knowledge of their own capabilities.

"The reason we're here on this Earth is to perfect who we are," explained Heinsohn. "Nobody knew who I was until I proved I was a person who worked hard and knew what it was to be a winner."

"I have found out in the course of living my life that making the Hall of Fame was not the thing. The thing is how you master yourself."

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CORNER

Not so magic-al

by Stephen B. Crafts
Staff writer

'Magic' Earvin Johnson has announced his retirement from professional basketball, again. It seems as though the rest of the players around the league could not deal with playing along side or against someone infected with the HIV virus, which is the reason Johnson retired the first time.

I feel commenting on this would only be as ludicrous as the players' attitude itself. To the players, I can only say that with all the money they make, I hope they buy a clue.

With that, you're probably assuming this article is in defense of the 'great' Magic Johnson. Well, you're wrong. In actuality, this article should have been written after Johnson's first retirement, but, since I wasn't writing then, the time is now.

Arguably, Magic Johnson was the greatest ball player in basketball history. He, along with Larry Bird, helped resurrect a collapsing sport. His dedication and love for the game showed every night he took the court. Simply, a great ball player.

However, after he announced his testing positive for HIV, and subsequently his retirement, they elevated him to almost a state of, dare I say, Godness.

I cannot understand this! I mean, how do you think Mr. Johnson contracted the virus in the first place? It appears as though the long, lonely road trips were not that lonely after all.

Seriously, Wade Boggs gets caught where he doesn't belong and America all but had the noose hanging from the gallows. But lovable Magic bounces a few balls on the wrong court and we open our collective, sympathetic arms to him. Well, not me.

Where's the usual "athletes are role models for our children and should set an example for them" story? I guess he's excluded from this normal treatment.

I will forever admire Earvin Johnson's basketball accomplishments. I cannot, however, join in placing him high upon some pedestal above the rest of us human beings.

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Soccer team goes down kicking

by John Gillis
Staff writer

The FSC soccer team had an important game against North Adams State on Hallow's eve. Not only was it the last regular season game for the seniors, but it was also a battle for a post-season position.

The Falcons ended up dropping the season finale, 3-1, despite showing the first place Mohawks one of their toughest games yet.

The first half saw only one goal, a penalty kick by last season's league MVP, Derek Shea. The Falcons were down 1-0 to a top-rate team, but the offense continued to apply pressure to the Mohawks' defense.

North Adams started the second half with a quick score from Chris O'Brien. The ball was taken down the wing and crossed inside the penalty box to a crowd of players. From there, O'Brien headed into the net. The play happened so quickly, there was not much the Falcons could do.

The Mohawks went up 3-0 at the 55:07 mark when Shea received a perfect through pass from O'Brien. Shea took the shot from about 16 yards out for his second goal of the game.

The Falcons continued to



Falcons are frustrated by a 3-1 loss at the hands of the North Adams Mohawks.

attack. At the 84:30 mark, the Falcons were awarded a penalty shot, and Mike Cirillo drilled it into the net.

The game was much closer than the score indi-

cated. The Falcons had many opportunities, but couldn't capitalize. "We played them well," said co-captain Cirillo. "The ball just bounced their way."

Warren Smith shined in goal for the Falcons, as he again recorded many key saves. On one play, Smith came out of the net perfectly to stop Shea on a breakaway.

The save was big, because it kept the morality of the team going, and because Shea (an import from Scotland) is the third highest scorer in the league.

Lady Falcons falter at playoffs

by Cheryl Hines
Staff writer

The FSC volleyball team attacked the MASCAC division championship playoffs in style. The Lady Falcons appeared bearing both the spirits of Halloween and FSC, as they wore yellow and green face paint.

The Lady Falcons were on the attack in game one against Mass Maritime. In the best-of-five series, the Lady Falcons found victory in four games. The Lady Falcons' faithful starting six were helped by freshman Carey Ann Beaulieu, as she started game one to help contribute to the victory.

The win gave the Lady Fal-

cons the chance to advance to round two against highly ranked Salem State. The Lady Falcons had lost to the Lady Vikings in both their previous match-ups earlier this year. Unfortunately, the Lady Falcons still could not find a way to beat Salem State. They lost two hard games, and a close third game to lead to a 3-0 defeat, and the end of the season.

The Lady Falcons did not end their season on a negative note, for the MASCAC all-stars were named this week, and three FSC women made the second team. Strength hitters and senior players Vicki Camacho, Tina Loiselle, and co-captain Michelle Levesque were all named to the team.

The Lady Falcons had a

roller-coaster of a season. They began with a great deal of new players, who came to learn and teach each other a great deal.

"They still need work covering the second set and following through," said coach Bob Murray. "They played hard and well, but improvement is needed." The FSC women's volleyball team will do just that next season. It will not be an easy road, however, as five seniors are leaving.

A year of transition and rebuilding seems to be in the Lady Falcons' future. The Lady Falcons played well, and the seniors, Marsha Manna, Michelle Levesque, Tina Loiselle, Vicki Camacho, and Noreen Weiner all deserve a great deal of praise.

BUSINESS AS USUAL for football team

by Kris Theriault
Staff writer

The FSC Football team played their final home game of the season last week against the Mariners of Maine Maritime Academy.

The Falcons, who are winless after seven games this season, looked to put up a victory this week against the 4-3 Mariners. From the outset of the game, it looked like the Falcons would pull off an upset. Sean Armbruster ran for a career high 54 yard touchdown, giving the Falcons a 6-0 lead all the way into the second quarter. The TD was the first time the Falcons made the board in five games.

The Falcons offense was moving the ball well over the Mariners' defense. An amazing 159 yards came on the ground. The ground attack was led by fullback Dan Colon, Armbruster, and Allen Harris.

The passing game worked as well at times. Freshman quarterback Steve Nelson started for the first time this season, and completed five passes, three of which connected with Dan Eberg. Eberg's receptions totaled 46 yards, including a 26 yarder.

The movement would not have been possible without

the fine offensive line blocking, led by co-captain guard Jim Mitchell, and guard Thomas Murray.

Regardless of the offense's fine performance, two turnovers (a field-goal block and an interception) led to Mariner touchdowns. Poor officiating began to demoralize the Falcon offense as well.

On the other side of the ball, the mean-green Falcon defense pounded on the Mariners' offense.

"Regardless of winning or losing, I just want our defense to hit them hard, and let them know we're here," said Falcon defensive line coach Dom Jacques.

The defense was led by an assortment of players. Most notable were back Vin Bincasa, who had an interception, and linebacker Pat McCarthy and tackle Dave Mamro, who were both playing injured.

"We've been playing with injuries all year," said Coach Jacques. "It's a rough game, and injuries are to be expected. It's easy to play the game healthy, but to play injured is something else."

The Falcons' last game of the season takes place on November 7, at UMass Boston.

Bruins learning a new language

by Cheryl Hines
Staff writer

A Bruin appears out of nowhere, receives the puck, shoots and scores! This does sound typical, but there's an international twist here.

And it's not Canadian.

When the Russians came to the NHL, the Bruins were lucky enough to pick up Dmitri Kuantanou. The 26 year-old

hot-shots has taken the league by storm. Just one month into the young season he has already scored ten goals, and has six assists.

Dmitri, also called Dima for short, is on one of the most successful offensive lines in the NHL, with line-mates Joe Juneau and Adam Oates. The language barrier has not held them back. The reason is that they speak another common language: hockey. The chem-

istry between the three is incredible, as they anticipate each other well.

Dmitri came to Boston in July a week after his wedding, and still has not found a permanent place to live. He and his wife Zhamna are living in a hotel while they look for a home. The most important thing on their minds is getting a grasp of the language. Luckily, the Bruins

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